sued any instructions to States for reservation of seats for backward classes in technical institutes/colleges; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the States, where this provision exists at present?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Several States have reserved seats for backward classes in technical institutions. Details are being collected.

[*English*]

Performance of Indian Contingent in Asiad and Olympic Games

4411. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the details of measures taken for better performance of the Indian Contingent in the ensuing ASIAD and Olympic Games?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE): The measures taken for better performance of the Indian Contingent in ensuring ASIAD and Olympic Games includes top level coaching and competition programmes in respect of both Olympic and Asian Games in identified disciplines. These plans are finalised and reviewed where necessary, in close consultation with National Federations and the Indian Olympic Association, who are primarily responsible for the preparation and performance of our national teams. The Sports Authority of India provides necessary equipment, infrastructure support, and services of foreign coaches wherever necessary.

Residential Schools in Rural Areas

4412. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to open free Residential Schools in rural areas to provide education to the economically backward children; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, the Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme envisages establishment of one Vidyalaya, on an average, in each district of the Country in order to provide good quality modern education to talented children irrespective of their families' socio-economic condition. 75% of seats in these fully residential schools are reserved for children from rural areas. So, far, 280 such Vidyalayas have been sanctioned.

Supply of Rice to Tribal Areas

4413. SHRI BASU DEV ACHARIA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tribals residing in integrated tribal development project villages are supplied with rice at cheaper rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government propose to extend this programme to non-integrated tribal development project areas in order to cover entire tribal population?